Light Armored Vehicle Product Improvement Programs

DESCRIPTION

The continued sustainment and evolution of the Family of Light Armored Vehicles encompasses a number of ongoing program efforts: the Service Life Extension Program (SLEP), the Command and Control Upgrade Program, and the LAV A2 Program. The LAV SLEP has added new components to all of the vehicles in the fleet to improve reliability and it brings a new thermal sight with an integrated laser rangefinder to the LAV-25 thereby improving survivability and lethality. The LAV C2 Upgrade provides new workstations with updated computer capability and the integration of the latest command and control hardware and software systems to improve both system performance and interoperability. The LAV A2 Program incorporates survivability enhancements (improved ballistic protection and automatic fire suppression), improved suspension components, electric turret drive, and power train upgrades into the legacy fleet as well as bringing additional vehicles into the fleet.

OPERATIONAL IMPACT

The improvements incorporated into the Family of Light Armored Vehicles will enhance the interoperability of the Light Armored Reconnaissance battalions while increasing survivability, lethality and reliability of the individual vehicles. The SLEP Improved Thermal Sight System (ITSS) greatly enhances the ranges at which the LAV-25 can detect, recognize, and identify targets as well as adding the capability to provide far target location. The LAV A2 provides significant improvements in crew survivability. All additional components will improve the sustainment of the vehicles.

PROGRAM STATUS

The LAV SLEP has completed installation of the reliability improvements in the majority of the fleet. The last portion of the program, the Improved Thermal Sight System (ITSS) entered production in FY06. Installation in the active fleet will begin in FY07. The LAV C2 Program has two contractors developing integration solutions. Each will deliver a prototype in FY06 for evaluation by the Government. Based on the evaluation a single contractor will be selected to deliver the final prototypes for DT and OT. The LAV A2 program was initiated with the FY05 Supplemental Defense Bill. The objective of the program is to procure an additional five LAV companies in an improved configuration and to upgrade the remaining Legacy fleet to this improved configuration. Letter contracts for the new vehicles and new components

are scheduled to be completed in September 2005. Installation of selected legacy fleet upgrades will begin in FY06 and the initial deliveries of the new vehicles will begin in FY07.

Procurement Profile:

	FY06	FY07
Quantity:		
SLEP (ITSS)	199	0
LAV C2 prototypes	-	6
LAV A2	10	(10 projected combat losses)

Developer/Manufacturer:

- SLEP (ITSS): Raytheon
- LAV C2 prototypes: Northrop Grumman, Lockheed Martin
- LAV A2: Armatec, KDS, GDLS